

II. REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

These Remarks are in response to the Final Office Action mailed May 4, 2005 (hereafter, "Final Office Action").

Claims 1-18 were pending in the Application prior to the outstanding Final Office Action. The Final Office Action allowed claims 1-6 and 13-18, rejected claims 7-10, and objected to claims 11-12 solely as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The present response cancels claims 7-10 and amends claims 11 and 12 to incorporate the limitations of base independent claim 7, as suggested by the Final Office Action, thereby placing claims 11 and 12 in condition for allowance.

Although Applicant contends that claims 7-10 are patentable, to expedite approval of the application, Applicant has canceled claims 7-10 and has amended claims 11 and 12 to rewrite them in independent form as suggested by the Final Office Action.

Although claim 17 has been found to be allowable by the Final Office Action, Applicant has amended it by replacing a period with a semicolon, thereby rendering the claim more definite.

III. CONCLUSION

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all remaining claims, as amended in the subject patent application, should be allowable, and a Notice of Allowance is requested. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if he can assist in any way in expediting issuance of the patent.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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